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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Poland

REPORT

SUBJECT Naval Base at Oksywie-Gdynia

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Location of the Naval Base.¹

1. This Polish naval base is located northeast of the Oksywie harbor basin. The boundaries of the base area are fenced with wire, and in some instances with barbed wire. The wires run horizontally, about 25 cm. apart, and are fastened to wooden poles about 2 meters high. The fence is broken by two gates, the southern one being the main entrance to the naval base. There is a guardhouse at this gate for the officer of the guard and two sailors. This is the only entrance to the base which may be used by non-naval personnel. Entrance was permitted only on showing a pass issued by the Polish Naval Command, located in the city. The northern entrance is used exclusively by naval personnel and is guarded by one guard. The entrances and other specific points within the naval base were guarded by a special guard company of the Polish Navy.
2. Residents of the village of Oksywie arriving by train at the railroad station or by bus can proceed along the street to the main gate and from here follow a path around the naval base grounds to Oksywie.

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Location and Description of the "Formosa" Bunker.¹

3. A pier is located at the northeastern end of the naval area. At the end of this pier is a large bunker called "Formosa" by the naval personnel. There was a guard at the shore end of this pier, charged with checking people through to the pier or to the bunker.
4. The following is a description of the bunker:
 - a. The bunker is connected to the shore by a concrete pier. This pier is five meters wide, about three meters high and extends about 500 meters from shore. There is a railing along both sides of the pier. The pier

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- 2 -

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runs in an east-northeasterly direction, bending to the north at the bunker.

- b. The bunker is located on the east side of that portion of the pier which runs in a northerly direction. The bunker is three stories high. The first floor of the bunker has an area of about 60 x 40 meters. At the midpoint of the northern side, which is about 60 meters long, is an annex which takes up about one-third of the width.

the bunker is about 2 meters higher.

- c. The upper portion of the bunker is smaller and lies in a northwesterly direction from the center. This upper portion is about 40 meters long, 20 meters wide and 3 meters high.

- d. the bunker had windows; however, the exact number was not known.

- e. Wooden pilings had been driven about 10 meters from the sides of the pier and around the bunker to break the force of the waves. (During World War II this bunker was used for testing the firing of guided torpedoes.

Description of Naval Basins, Quays, Piers, etc.

5. There is a small basin south of the foot of the pier mentioned under 4e. this basin was not in use. There were two small wooden piers in this basin. The basin was very shallow and not suitable for the mooring of small naval craft.
6. A new basin, adjacent to and east of Basin No. 10, was excavated in 1952. Two concrete piers were almost completed by the end of 1952. The entrance to this basin is on the south. It had already been put into use by that time.
7. The two small wooden piers in Basin 10 are about 3 meters above water level. The other piers in this basin were made of concrete. The southernmost pier, also of concrete, was almost ready for use in December 1952. There are two entrances used for this basin.
8. There had been three wooden jetties directly beyond the entrance to the Port Canal. Of these, only the westernmost has remained. Of the two eastern piers, only the foundation pilings remain in the water.
9. Basin No. 9 is used primarily for such small naval craft as minesweepers and the like. The basin is about seven meters deep. The quay is built of concrete from the pier along the south side of the basin to the tongue of land. The quay is about three meters above water level. The pier on the south side of the basin is built of concrete, as are the small jetties which are also of the same height as the quay. Other piers in the basin are of wooden construction and also have the same height as the quay.
10. The small basin located between the southernmost wooden pier in Basin No. 9 and the concrete pier is used as a repair basin.
11. There are a number of buildings in the vicinity of this repair basin. These buildings house repair shops of the Polish Navy, including a forge, a carpenter shop and a fitting shop. the employees of the repair basin were Polish naval personnel.

Polish Naval Vessels.

12. Three Polish submarines were berthed at this point. The names of the sub-

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- 3 -

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Mariner was not known [redacted]

13. [redacted] six minesweepers in the northwestern portion of the basin. These were of the Russian "M" type. [redacted] The small basin located between the quay and the northern pier in Basin No. 9 was sometimes used for berthing Polish minesweepers which were originally berthed at No. 1. [redacted]
14. There were usually 4 or 5 motor torpedo boats at the southwestern corner of Basin No. 10. These boats were used for patrol duty along the Polish coast. Motor patrol craft were frequently moored in Basin No. 6. The bows of these craft are round. There was a light cannon mounted at the bow. The caliber of these cannons was not known [redacted]
15. There was a wreck of a German naval vessel at the northernmost part of the quay in Basin No. 9. [redacted] this wreck had been salvaged in the Outer Harbor and supposedly had served as a radar vessel for the German Navy. This vessel was not intended for the Polish Navy, but was to be scrapped.
16. There are two wooden piers to the west of Basin No. 9. Oil pipe lines run from these piers. Naval vessels bunker at these piers. [redacted]

Important Buildings.

17. The offices of the Commandant of the Polish Navy are located in one of the buildings located on the Plac Kosciuszko. The Commandant is Vice Admiral Wiktor Czerakow. [redacted] the vice admiral. [redacted] is of Russian nationality. West of Basin No. 10 is a three-story building used by the "Ochrona Wodnowego Rejonu Glownej Bazy" (literally translated: "Protection of the Water Area of the Main Base"; freely translated: "Commandant of Polish Naval Vessels"). The commandant of this is a Commodore (Kommandor) named Mironov. He is Russian by nationality. [redacted] He wore a Polish naval uniform. West of the above mentioned building is a three-story building, where the commandant of the submarine service is located. The rest of the building was used as barracks for the personnel of this unit. The commandant was a Pole.
18. The Polish Naval Officers' School building complex, located at the main entrance to the naval base, was used as an officers' school. The school buildings and the barracks for the students were located in buildings three stories high. There was a field in the middle of these buildings. In a third building were quarters for the Polish and Russian officers connected with this school and also for their families. There were also officers' quarters and the officers' recreation buildings located at the western end of these buildings.
19. The following buildings were reported as warehouses:
- Two buildings west of Basin No. 10, were fitted out as warehouses. These were perhaps equipment storage facilities for the various service units.
 - In the building located north of building (a), torpedo components were repaired and overhauled. This building has three stories.

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- 4 -

- c. Next to the sport hall and northwest of Basin No. 10 is a red brick building fitted out as a food warehouse for the entire base.
- d. To the east of building (g) there is a three-story building containing the clothing warehouse and tailor shop for officers' uniforms.
- e. The buildings lying to the east of the building (h) and to the north of Basin No. 10 were separated from the grounds by a mixed smooth and barbed wire fence. A member of the guard company was posted near these buildings. [redacted] these were storage buildings.

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- f. The oblong, three-story building located to the north of Basin No. 10 is partially used for storage of uniforms, underwear, and equipment, with the exception of arms, for the naval personnel, in Gdynia and Hel. The same building contains the tailor shop and shoemaker's shop.
- g. This is a two-story building, east of building (f) which is used for the filling of metal cylinders with compressed gases for torpedoes and submarines.
- h. The building located north of building (g) is a three-story shed. This building, which is about 80 x 20 meters, is used for storage of old sea mines. [redacted]
[redacted] the components are taken out of these mines, and stored on the upper floor, where they are repaired if necessary.

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20. Other buildings located on the base were:

- a. In the vicinity of the bunkering piers mentioned in para. 4 above there is a large, partially destroyed building. [redacted]
- b. To the north east of building (a) there are three stone barracks. These barracks are for the civilian employees of the naval base.
- c. In the buildings located in the vicinity of the wreck mentioned in paragraph 3 above are the slaughter house and refrigeration installations for meats used by the naval base.
- d. To the east of the slaughterhouse were several stone buildings which were not in use [redacted]
- e. The building complex located along the road to the northeast of the buildings indicated in (a) was used as barracks for naval personnel. These were rather low, one-story buildings. They were built of brick and measured about 20 x 8 meters.
- f. Close to the end of the above-mentioned road, to the west, there was a large, three-story, brick building. The dimensions of this building are about 50 x 50 meters. This was the so-called "Dom Kultura" building. Recreational evenings were held here for the naval personnel. Lectures were given and it was also possible to find personal amusement in reading, games, and the like. There were also two canteens, one for non-coms and one for the enlisted personnel.
- g. This building, located at the main entrance, is destroyed.

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- 5 -

- h. The provost was located in the southeast corner of the building complex of the Naval Officers' School. There was also a guard at this point, through whom access to the officers' school grounds could be obtained.
- i. To the northwest of the officers' school there is a hospital for all naval personnel. Civilians were employed at the hospital.
- j. The southwesternmost building along Basin No. 10 was in use by the service charged with building maintenance and with construction of new buildings for the Polish Navy.
- k. There was a three-story, 50 x 20 meters, building located to the east of building (1j). This building was entirely enclosed with barbed wire and probably served as a warehouse.
- l. The building located in the extension of building (1k) was about 70 meters long and 15 meters wide. It had three storied and served as quarters for naval personnel.
- m. Along the road located north of building (1l) there were two buildings housing the administrative offices.
- n. Northeast of building (1m) is also an L-shaped building, containing a mess hall and washroom facilities. The mess hall is located in the north wing of this building. This is for the naval personnel. The southern wing contains washrooms.
- o. The U-shaped building located to the north of building (1n) was also a barracks building. This is a three-story, concrete building. 25X1
- p. The three buildings located to the west and north of building (1o) were used as administration buildings for the Gdynia base.
- q. There is a large-two-story building located to the north of building (1p), along the railroad track. This building was a gymnasium used for gymnastic and other indoor sport practice.
- r. To the east of building (1q) was a three-story building which was used for the servicing of patrol vehicles. On the ground floor there were the offices of the motor pool, while the upper floors were used for sleeping quarters and sitting rooms of the personnel.
- s. To the northeast of the above-named building (1r) there was a barracks building. This is also a three-story building.
- t. To the west of building (1s) is a mess hall and kitchens for the military personnel quartered in buildings (1r) and (1s). The mess hall runs in an east-west direction.
- u. The rectangular building to the north of building (1t) was destroyed and not in use.
- v. The two buildings located next to this destroyed building were fitted out as work shops for the officer candidates. Here they received practical training in servicing instruments connected with navigation, including reckoning devices, sounding devices, and the like; also in knots and splices, electrical apparatuses, direction finders, etc.

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- 6 -

- w. To the southwest of building (w) there is the mess hall for the administrative personnel and the personnel of the guard company.
- x. In the extension of the building northwest of building (w) there is a dry cleaning and laundry establishment for uniforms and other naval clothing. This building is three stories high. The laundry facilities are on the ground floor and the drying and handling rooms are on the second floor. The work was done by naval personnel.
- y. To the east of this laundry is the building used by the Navy Band. This is a one-story hall.

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- bb. Only the ruins remained of the building located to the south of the storage building for sea mines

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- cc. The two small buildings located east of Basin No. 11 were each three stories high and measured about 10 x 10 meters. These buildings contained offices.

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- dd. On the Plac Kosciuszko, located at the extension of the ulica Lutego, there are two blocks of houses on the north side of the square. Several of these were used by the Polish Navy. In the block located on the Plac Kosciuszko and the ulica Swietojanska there is a recreation building for the Polish Navy. This building is called "Casino".

- 21. Directly opposite building (29-a) was a bunker built by the Germans for anti-aircraft protection. This bunker was not in use.

Morale of Polish Naval Personnel.

- 22. The feeling among Polish military personnel was generally strongly anti-Russian. This has a number of causes, firstly economic in origin, and secondly resulting from the Russian pressure on the private life of the individual resulting in a loss of freedom in many fields. Among the Polish population the feeling prevails that in case of the outbreak of war (which is hoped for, since this is the only way to get free of Russian oppression) the Polish Army, with the exception of fanatic Communists and a few officers, will turn against Russia.

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General

- 23. [redacted] in Gdynia, the port was visited frequently by Russian merchant ships. They frequently arrived in ballast. Their cargoes on leaving consisted mainly of coal which had been shipped into the port by train from the hinterlands. The place where these ships were loaded was the northern side of the pier located between Basins No 2 and No 3. There are a number of traveling bridge transporter cranes on this pier, used for loading of bulk cargoes. [redacted] these had a capacity of about 15 tons. [redacted] not recall the number of cranes, but there were at least three.

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- 7 -

24. On the southern side of the pier located on the north side of Basin No. 3 there is the wreckage of the GNEISENAU, which was raised at the entrance to the harbor. This wreckage is broken up by welders and the pieces are then loaded into freight cars. Where these pieces are sent was not known [redacted] 25X1

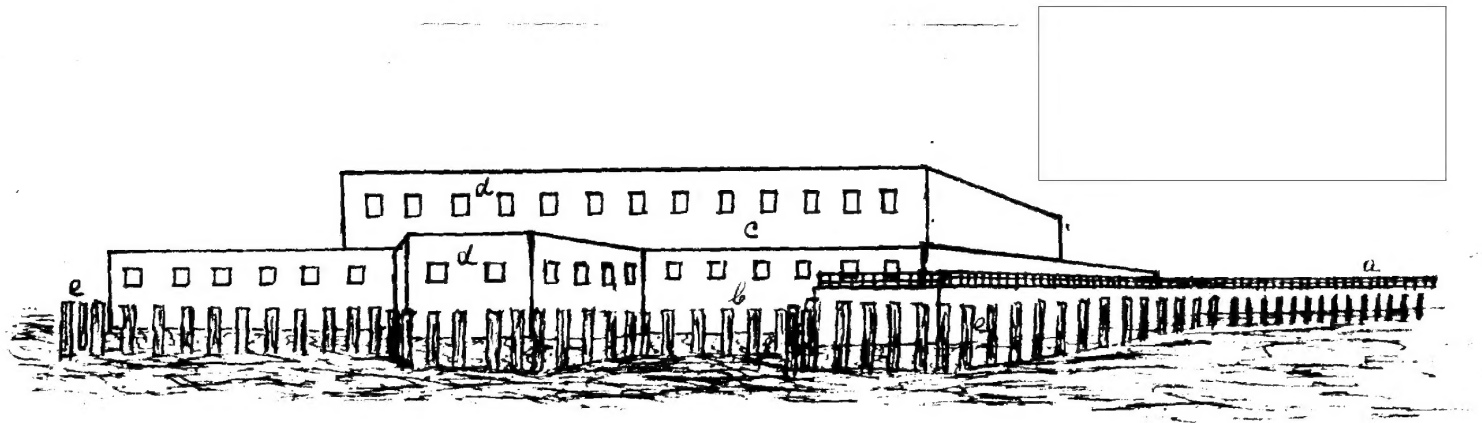
25. [redacted] there are three heavy floating cranes in the port area. 25X1
These have a lifting capacity of about 60, 40 and 30 tons respectively.
[redacted] not know to which enterprises these cranes belong. Since, however, 25X1
they were generally in the vicinity of "Stocznia 13", [redacted] 25X1
[redacted] 25X1

2. [redacted] Comment: Renamed the Paris Commune Shipyard. 25X1

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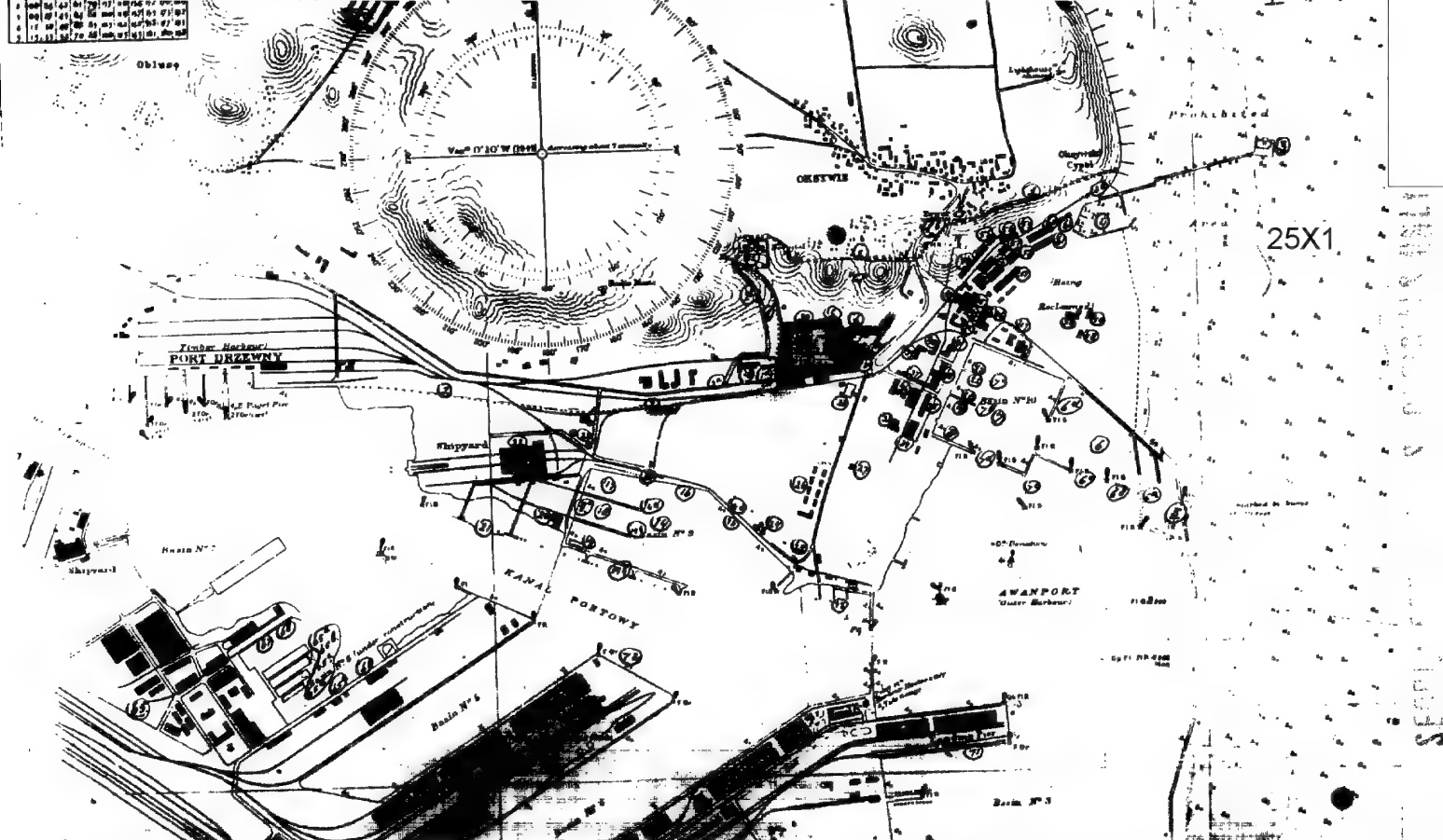


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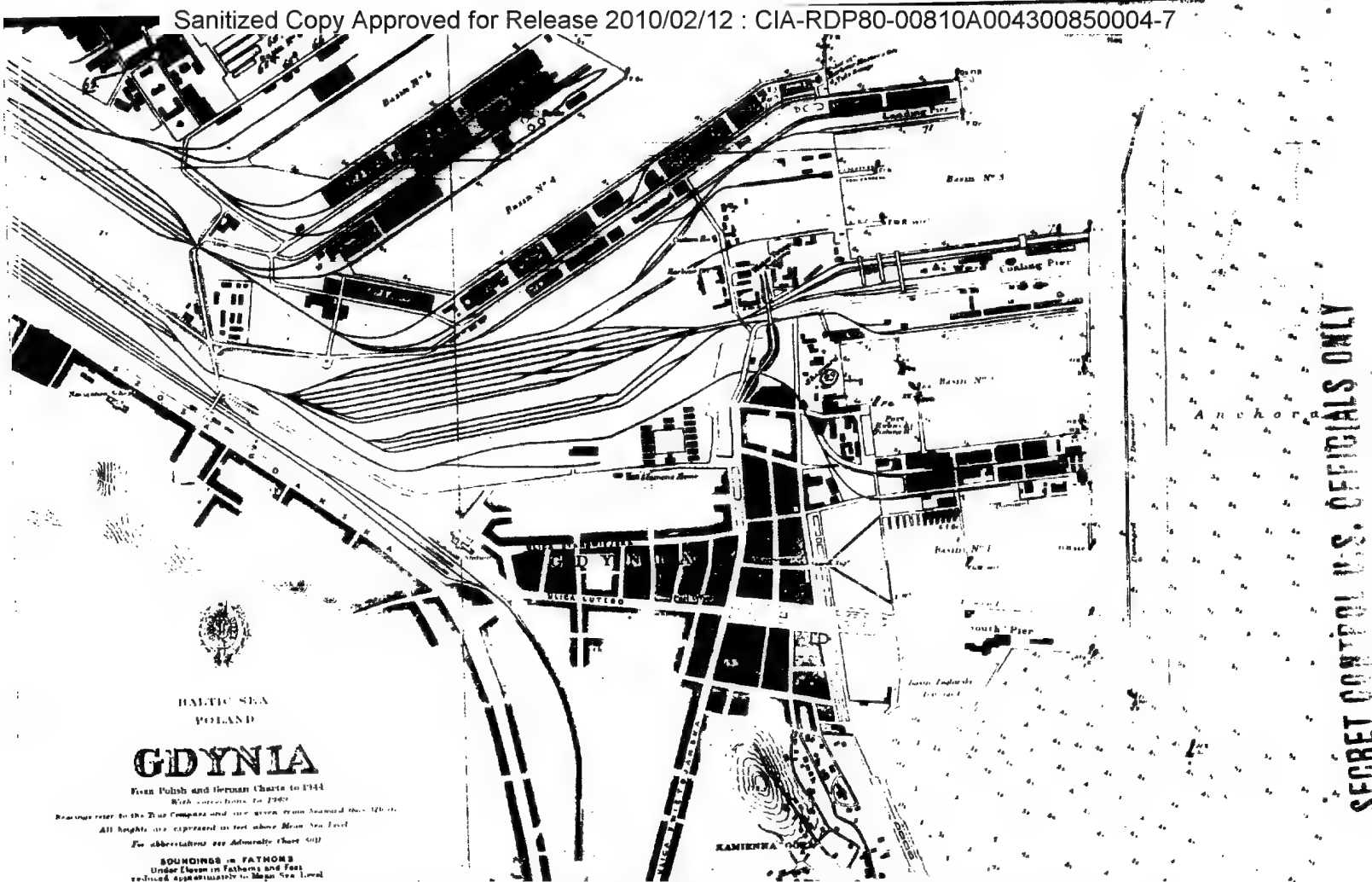
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Legend to
~~Object Index for Chart of Gdynia Harbor~~

1. Boundry line of the Polish Naval Base
- 123 ^{Water}
2. ~~Station~~ ^{Railroad}
- 2a Street
- 2b ^{path around naval base} ~~Sidewalk~~ along the ~~barracks~~ grounds
3. Pier with "Formosa" bunker at extreme end
4. Basin
5. Present harbor entrance
6. New basin → 6a, 6b, 6c, 6d, Concrete piers
7. Basin No 10 ^{6c Entrance to #6}
- 8a, 7b Wooden piers
- 7c, 7d Small concrete piers
- 7d, 7e Entrance to ~~basin~~ no. 10
- 8, 9 Berth for ^{four} ~~4~~ to ^{five} ~~5~~ Polish motor speed boats
- 10, 11 Berths for three submarines
12. Berths for ^{six} ~~6~~ minesweepers
13. ^{three} ~~3~~ wooden piers, of which ^{two} ~~2~~ are destroyed
14. Basin No 9 → 14a Quay, 14b Concrete pier, 14c, 14d. ^{Wooden} ~~Concrete~~ piers
15. Wreck of German Naval vessel
16. Berth of the "Byyskawica"
17. Berth for Polish minesweepers
18. Berth for speed boats
19. Repair basin
20. Polish Navy repair shops
21. ^{Tow} ~~2~~ wooden piers with oil lines
22. Destroyed building
23. ^{three} ~~3~~ stone barracks
24. Slaughter house and refrigerated storage for meat
25. Several stone buildings
26. Temporary barracks
27. Bunker

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28. "Dom Kultura" building
29. Destroyed building
- 30a School building of officers' school
- 30b Officers' school quarters
- 30c Quarters for Polish and Russian officers
- 30d ~~Ditto~~ " " " " " "
31. The Provost
32. Hospital
33. Buildings service
34. Warehouse
35. Naval personnel building
36. Warehouses
37. Administrative offices
38. Repair shops (torpedo components)
39. Commandant of submarine service
40. Mess hall and wash rooms
41. "Ochraha Wodnowego Rejonu Glownej Basny" building
42. Temporary barracks
43. ^{1/2} administrative buildings
44. Gymnasium
45. Food storage
46. Clothing storage and officers' tailor shop
47. Probable storage places
48. Building of the patrol craft service
49. Temporary barracks
50. Mess hall adjacent to kitchens
51. Destroyed building
52. Work shops for officer candidates
53. Mess hall for administrative personnel
54. Clothing storage, tailor shops, laundry
55. *Dry cleaning and laundry establishment*
56. Navy band practice hall

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- ~~56. Dry cleaning and laundry~~
57. Building, use unknown
58. Building in which metal cylinders are filled, etc.
59. Small building, use unknown
60. Shed in which old sea mines are stored
61. Ruins
62. 2 small buildings containing offices
63. Buildings used by the Polish Navy
64. Offices of commandant of the Polish Navy
65. The "~~Stocznia Farijskiej~~" ^{*In to many*}, now called ~~Stocznia No 13~~ ^{*Port Communa Shipyard*}
- 65a Dry dock
- 65b Dry dock
- 65c Dry dock
- 65d Small, new dry dock
66. Two former German merchant vessels
67. Berth of the Polish destroyer "Turza"
68. Merchant ship for delivery to Russia
69. "~~Stocznia Rybacka~~" shipyard
70. Northerly quay where Russian ships load coal
71. Wreckage of the Gneisenau
72. Berth of the school ship "Feniowski"

Legend to
~~Sketch of~~ Sketch of "Formosa" Bunker

- a. Concrete pier
- b. Bunker
- c. Upper structure of bunker
- d. Windows
- e. Wooden pilings for breaking force of waves.

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